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# Montana

## ent of Labor and Industry Labor Market Information for

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### Cities and Towns in Sanders County

Belknap ♦ Camas ♦ Dixon ♦ Heron ♦ Hot Springs

Lonepine ♦ Noxon ♦ Paradise ♦ Perma

Plains ♦ Thompson Falls ♦ Trout Creek

The most current county-by-county information can be found in our quarterly publication *Employment and Labor Force Trends*. And most of our information is on the Internet at <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/>. In addition, we'll do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Provided by the Research & Analysis Bureau  
Workforce Services Division  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P. O. Box 1728, (840 Helena Ave.)  
Helena, Montana 59624  
Phone 406-444-2430/FAX 406-444-2638  
Toll free within Montana 800-633-0229  
Toll free outside Montana 800-541-3904  
TDD 406-444-0532

10/25/01

# Sanders County

Located in northwestern Montana, Sanders County is Montana's 18th most populous with 10,227 residents, according to the 2000 Census.

According to the *Montana Almanac*, by authors Andrea Merrill and Judy Jacobson, the county was established in 1905 and named after Wilbur Fisk Sanders, pioneer and U.S. senator from Montana. Thompson Falls, the county seat, is the state's 48th largest city with a population of 1,321. The city is surrounded by millions of acres of National Forest offering a variety of recreational activities, including camping, hunting, berry picking and wildlife viewing. Thompson Falls dam was built in 1917 and visitors can view the spectacular sight from a wooded island. The Clark Fork River runs through the area providing water recreational activities.

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, median income for Sanders County households in 1997 was \$24,183. The county is 2,790.2 square miles in area; 2,762.3 square miles in land area and 27.9 in inland water area.

County residents experience the four distinct seasons. According to the *Western Regional Climate Center*, the average minimum temperature in Thompson Falls in January between 1956 and 2000 was 20.6 degrees above zero. The average maximum temperature in July was 87.1 degrees above. The annual precipitation during the same period was 23.28 inches and the growing season was from May 31 to Aug. 30 (last and first frost).

## Sanders County Population

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Area	2000 Census	1990 Census	1980 Census	% Change '90 to '00	% Change '80 to '90	% Change '80 to '00
Montana	902,195	799,065	786,690	12.9%	1.6%	14.7%
Sanders County	10,227	8,669	8,675	18.0%	-0.1%	17.9%
Hot Springs	531	411	601	29.2%	-31.6%	-11.6%
Plains	1,126	992	1,116	13.5%	-11.1%	0.9%
Thompson Falls	1,321	1,319	1,478	0.2%	-10.8%	-10.6%

## 1998 New Businesses by Industry Sanders County

Due to a change in computer software, we're not able to publish current information.  
As soon as we're able to get updated numbers for new and changed  
ownership businesses, we'll begin publishing the information.

SIC Code*	Industry	# of New Busi- nesses
24	Lumber & Wood Products, Except Furniture	7
17	Special Trade Contractors	6
15	General Building Contractors	6
58	Eating & Drinking Places	4
42	Trucking-Warehousing	3
59	Miscellaneous Retail Trade	2
79	Amusement & Recreation Services	2
65	Real Estate	2
83	Social Services	2
81	Legal Services	2
76	Miscellaneous Repair Services	2
73	Business Services	2
80	Health Services	1
86	Membership Organizations	1
87	Engineering Services	1
14	Mining & Quarrying of Nonmetallic Minerals, Except Fuels	1
78	Motion Pictures	1
70	Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps & Other Lodging Places	1
55	Auto Dealers-Gasoline Service Stations	1
54	Food Stores	1
52	Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply & Mobile Home Dealers	1
51	Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1
45	Transportation By Air	1
88	Private Households	1
	Total	52

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau.

\*SIC Code: Standard Industrial Classification Code.

New business registered with the Unemployment Insurance Program.

Does not include businesses which had a change in ownership.

## Top 10 Private Employers In Sanders County *Listed In Alphabetical Order*

<p style="text-align: center;">Boomtown Cafe</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clark Fork Valley Hospital &amp; Clinic</p> <p style="text-align: center;">First State Bank</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Industrial Design Associates</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lawyer Nursery</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R &amp; R Industries</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sanders County Harvest Foods</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Spring Creek Lodge</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thompson River Lumber</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Trout Creek Lumber</p>
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Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau.

First Quarter 2001 Unemployment Insurance Information.

This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.

Annual Average Labor Force For Sanders County				
Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unem- ployed	Unem- ployment Rate
2000	4,319	3,969	350	8.1%
1999	4,326	3,927	399	9.2%
1998	4,089	3,658	431	10.5%
1997	4,079	3,643	436	10.7%
1996	4,057	3,549	508	12.5%
1995	4,097	3,516	581	14.2%
1994	3,955	3,508	447	11.3%
1993	3,858	3,374	484	12.5%
1992	3,789	3,289	500	13.2%
1991	3,702	3,132	570	15.4%
1990	3,731	3,319	412	11.0%
1989	3,129	2,741	388	12.4%
1988	3,231	2,817	414	12.8%
1987	3,282	2,861	421	12.8%
1986	3,265	2,759	506	15.5%
1985	3,280	2,740	540	16.5%
1984	3,875	3,394	481	12.4%
1983	4,262	3,725	537	12.6%
1982	4,062	3,411	651	16.0%
1981	4,005	3,541	464	11.6%
1980	3,972	3,589	383	9.6%
1979	3,887	3,579	308	7.9%
1978	3,939	3,604	335	8.5%
1977	4,071	3,726	345	8.5%
1976	3,934	3,644	290	7.4%
1975	3,644	3,327	317	8.7%
1974	3,372	3,148	224	6.6%
1973	3,215	3,053	162	5.0%
1972	3,126	2,963	163	5.2%
1971	2,993	2,828	165	5.5%
1970	2,686	2,526	160	6.0%

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau (2001 Benchmark)

Summary of Major Occupational Categories By Sex 1990 Census-Equal Employment Opportunity Data Civilian Labor Force-All Persons			
Occupation	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,382</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>1,406</b>
<b>Managerial and Professional Specialty Occupations</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>411</b>
Executive, Administrative and Managerial Occupations	216	98	118
Professional Specialty Occupations	506	213	293
<b>Technical, Sales and Administrative Support Occupations</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>457</b>
Technicians and Related Support Occupations	113	45	68
Sales Occupations	285	133	152
Administrative Support Occupations, including Clerical	259	22	237
<b>Service Occupations</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>315</b>
Private Household Occupations	13	0	13
Protective Service Occupations	41	39	2
Service Occupations, Except Protective and Household	377	77	300
<b>Farming, Forestry, Fishing</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Precision Production, Craft and Repair Occupations</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>17</b>
Mechanics and Repairers	109	109	0
Construction Trade	106	97	9
Extractive Occupations	16	16	0
Precision Production Occupations	85	77	8
<b>Operators, Fabricators and Laborers</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>110</b>
Machine Operators, Assemblers and Inspectors	274	233	41
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	252	231	21
Handlers, Equipment Cleaners, Helpers and Laborers	254	206	48
<b>Unemployed, No Recent Civilian Work Experience</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Equal Employment Opportunity File, (CD-ROM)

## Resources

### ⇒ Chambers of Commerce:

Hot Springs Chamber, Box 580, Hot Springs, MT 59845, 406-741-2662  
 Plains-Paradise Chamber, P. O. Box 1531, Plains, MT 59859-1531, 406-826-4700  
 Thompson Falls Chamber, 1013 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-4930

### ⇒ Department of Labor and Industry:

*Sanders County Job Service Workforce Center*  
 2 Tradewinds Way, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3472

### *Montana Department of Labor & Industry's Research & Analysis Bureau Publications*

For information on employment by industry, new businesses, labor market information, profile of the Montana worker, job projections and hourly pay by occupation, contact the office at any of the numbers listed on the front of this publication or check out our Internet website at <http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/>.

### ⇒ Housing Costs:

Check the Yellow Pages in the local phone directory for the *Real Estate* listings.

### ⇒ Internet:

Montana Workforce Services home page for job listings at <http://jsd.dli.state.mt.us/>.  
 Cities and towns of Dixon, Heron, Hot Springs, Lonepine, Noxon, Paradise, Plains, Thompson Falls and Trout Creek Home Pages—Use the Search Utilities on the Internet to find home pages for Montana cities.

### ⇒ Montana Motor Vehicle Division:

*Drivers' Licensing*  
 Thompson Falls—Courthouse, 406-827-6398

### ⇒ Newspapers:

*Valley Press*, P. O. Box 667, Plains, MT 59859-0667, 406-826-3402  
*Sanders County Ledger*, P. O. Box 219, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3421

### ⇒ Public Libraries:

Laurie Hill Library, Box 128, Heron, MT 59844-0128, 406-847-2520  
 Preston Hot Springs Town County Library, 203 E. Main, Hot Springs, MT 59845-0127, 406-741-3491  
 Plains District Library, 108 W. Railroad, Plains, MT 59859-0339, 406-826-3101  
 Thompson Falls Public Library, 911 Main St., Thompson Falls, MT 59873-0337, 406-827-3547

### ⇒ Superintendent of Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

Camas Prairie Elementary, 781 County Road 382, Plains, MT 59859, 406-741-2837  
 Dixon Elementary, P. O. Box 10, Dixon, MT 59831, 406-246-3566  
 Hot Springs Public Schools, P. O. Box 1005, Hot Springs, MT 59845, 406-741-3285  
 Noxon Public Schools, P. O. Box 1506, Noxon, MT 59853, 406-847-2442  
 Paradise Elementary, 20 Schoolhouse Hill Road, Box 126, Paradise, MT 59856, 406-826-3344  
 Plains Public Schools, Box 549, Plains, MT 59859, 406-826-3866  
 Thompson Falls Public Schools, P. O. Box 129, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, 406-827-3323  
 Trout Creek Elementary, 85 Pine St., Trout Creek, MT 59874, 406-827-3629

## Sanders County Employment By Industry\* Annual Averages 2000

Industry	# of Establish- ments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	409	2,732	\$64,464,769
PRIVATE BUSINESS	367	2,048	\$37,749,323
AGRI., FORESTRY, FISH	6	103	\$2,449,427
MINING	4	36	\$788,669
CONSTRUCTION	55	100	\$2,133,527
General Building	27	40	\$717,900
Heavy Construction	6	8	\$175,951
Special Trade	21	50	\$1,238,678
MANUFACTURING	58	379	\$8,382,543
Lumber	39	278	\$6,370,733
Printing-Publishing	3	22	\$333,185
Nonelectrical Machinery**	3	42	\$1,047,105
TRANS., COMMUN., UTILITIES	40	144	\$4,256,443
Local Transportation	5	34	\$257,581
Trucking-Warehousing	25	61	\$1,344,667
Communication	4	17	\$898,234
Elec., Gas, Sanitation	6	31	\$1,767,961
WHOLESALE TRADE	13	72	\$1,405,088
Durable Goods	8	49	\$787,503
Nondurable Goods	4	23	\$617,565
RETAIL TRADE	76	427	\$4,458,510
Building Materials-Garden	12	82	\$875,897
Food Stores	12	103	\$1,292,821
Auto Dealers-Service Stations	11	63	\$666,202
Eating & Drinking	28	170	\$1,148,427
Miscellaneous Retail	8	34	\$442,534
FINANCE, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE	21	86	\$2,097,787
Insurance Agents	4	9	\$142,499
Real Estate	12	20	\$292,078
SERVICES	90	884	\$11,778,287
Hotels & Lodging	8	63	\$558,163
Personal Services	3	8	\$95,005
Business Services	7	65	\$1,103,387
Auto Repair Services	4	11	\$176,042
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5	3	\$39,912
Amusement & Recreation	7	18	\$184,136
Health Services	9	228	\$4,800,413
Legal Services	5	9	\$119,243
Social Services	19	110	\$1,214,026
Membership Organizations	8	15	\$138,728
Engineering Services	11	18	\$327,887
GOVERNMENT	42	864	\$18,715,448
State	10	62	\$1,508,299
Local	18	484	\$9,890,543
Federal	16	147	\$5,316,604

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau  
 (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)

\*Employment Covered by Unemployment Insurance

\*\*Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment

## Per Capita Personal Income

	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1980	1970
U.S.	\$28,542	\$27,322	\$25,874	\$24,651	\$23,562	\$22,581	\$21,718	\$21,082	\$20,089	\$19,584	\$10,183	\$4,095
Montana	\$21,997	\$21,307	\$20,173	\$19,383	\$18,764	\$18,129	\$18,072	\$17,114	\$16,509	\$15,524	\$9,143	\$3,625
% of National Average	77%	78%	78%	79%	80%	80%	83%	81%	82%	79%	90%	89%
Sanders County	\$16,090	\$15,520	\$14,505	\$13,987	\$13,696	\$13,588	\$13,535	\$13,568	\$12,853	\$12,251	\$7,174	\$2,825
% of National Average	56%	57%	56%	57%	58%	60%	83%	64%	64%	63%	70%	69%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System. Released May 2001

PLEASE NOTE: Because of time and budget constraints, we are only able to update our county fliers periodically. Individual tables are updated on a more frequent basis. You can call us if you'd like the most current information for a particular county. The Annual Averages for County Employment By Industry are updated annually, usually in June. The Top Employers are updated annually. Per Capita Income statewide is usually released late spring. Population data for Montana is released in late December and county data in March. The Annual Average Labor Force information is benchmarked annually and numbers available before March. The other tables contain Census information and will be updated every 10 years. You can also look for more current information on our website listed on the front of this publication.

750 copies of this flier were printed at an estimated cost of \$75.45.

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Sanders County

Count of Persons by Age, Race and Sex

School Age	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
5-11	775	376	1	0	61	31	2	1	2	1	38	15	19	15
12-14	485	232	1	1	31	18	3	0	0	0	18	13	15	6
15-17	484	237	1	0	21	9	1	0	3	0	24	15	10	4
18-21	337	146	1	0	28	14	2	1	1	1	12	5	15	10
Total	2,081	991	4	1	141	72	8	2	6	2	92	48	59	35

Working & Voting Age	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
16+	7,547	3,771	9	1	356	156	26	20	23	11	178	101	109	58
16-64	5,902	2,919	9	1	310	139	22	17	19	9	153	90	97	49
18+	7,236	3,616	9	1	342	150	25	20	20	11	162	89	103	53
18-64	5,591	2,764	9	1	296	133	21	17	16	9	137	78	91	46

Other Age Group	White Alone		Black Alone		American Indian & Alaska Native Alone		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Some Other Race Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female
0-4	420	195	1	1	30	14	1	1	2	2	28	12	12	4
5-17	1,744	845	3	1	113	58	6	1	5	1	80	43	44	25
18-44	2,541	1,287	8	1	170	81	14	13	9	5	79	51	54	24
45-64	3,050	1,477	1	0	126	52	7	4	7	4	58	27	37	22
65+	1,645	852	0	0	46	17	4	3	4	2	25	11	12	7
Total	9,400	4,858	13	3	485	222	32	22	27	14	270	144	159	82

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF1) 100-Percent Data  
Compiled by: Census & Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, September 2001

Sanders County			
County of Residence	# Who Work in Sanders County	County of Work	# Who Live in Sanders County
Out of State	22	Out of State	124
Flathead County	18	Flathead County	11
Lake County	118	Lake County	50
Lincoln County	12	Lincoln County	44
Mineral County	11	Mineral County	27
Missoula County	14	Missoula County	77
Sanders County	2,660	Sanders County	2,660
Yellowstone County	13	Other Montana Counties	10
Other Montana Counties	17		

Source: 1990 Census Data provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.